

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as indicated below by the markings and add New Claim 12.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a data processing system with copy protection for user programs, comprising the steps of:
~~directly connecting~~ providing the data processing system ~~[[to]]~~ with a copy protection identification ~~[[via]]~~-by a hardware module,
providing a storage medium containing a plurality of application programs as well as an installation program and a cryptoprogram ~~on a storage medium intended for~~ to ~~[[the]]~~ a user,
communicating from a producer to the user an encrypted product identification that references at least one of said user programs,
communicating a user identification that identifies the user, ~~an encrypted product identification that references at least one user program~~ and a copy protection identification to the user, the communicated copy protection identification corresponding to the copy protection identification connected via the hardware module,
when processing the installation program on the data processing system, inputting the communicated copy protection identification, the user identification and the encrypted product identification communicated from the producer,
providing each of said user programs with a predetermined memory area into which the copy protection identification can be entered,
comparing by the installation program the copy protection identification that has been input to the copy protection identification connected ~~[[with]]~~ via the hardware module and,
given coincidence, deciphering the encrypted product identification upon utilization of the user identification as a key, and
identifying ~~[[the]]~~ one of said user programs referenced in the product identification, loading ~~[[the]]~~ a selected one of said user programs from the storage medium into a memory area of the data processing system,

entering by the cryptoprogram the copy protection identification into [[the]] a predetermined memory area of the selected user program, and before running the selected ~~application~~ user program, comparing the copy protection identification contained in the predetermined memory area to the copy protection identification directly connected with the data processing system via the hardware module, and running the selected user program only given coincidence.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein, when running the installation program, further running of the installation program is only continued after the comparison of the copy protection identification that has been input to the copy protection identification connected with the data processing system given coincidence.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the product identification also contains the copy protection identification, and further comprising the step of:
comparing said copy protection identification to the copy protection identification connected with the data processing system, and continuing running of the further program steps only given coincidence.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
referencing a plurality of application programs in said product identification;
determining a list of said application programs upon decipherment of the product identification; and
checking said list for correctness.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said step of checking said list for correctness ensues on a basis of a checksum check.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of: accepting a user selection from the application programs of the list; and loading only the selected application programs from the storage medium into the memory area of the data processing system.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:
undertaking an authentication between the installation program and [[the]] a key program when the key program is called.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein said authentication is implemented according to a challenge-response protocol.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the product identification is compressed according to a static Huffman-Baum method.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the copy protection identification connected with the data processing system is situated on a hardware module that is permanently connected to the data processing system.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the hardware module is a dongle that is pluggably connected to at least one of a parallel interface and a serial interface and a USB bus of the data processing system; and said dongle including the copy protection identification.

12. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of comparing by the installation program the copy protection identification connected via the hardware module to the communicated copy protection identification requires no decryption.